



THE USE OF GCC LIGANDS

Abstract

Proliferation of colorectal, gastric and esophageal cancer cells is inhibited by administering ST receptor ligand. The number of ST receptor molecules on the surface of a colorectal cell or metastasized colorectal cancer cell are increased by administering an ST receptor ligand such that ligand comes into contact with an ST receptor on the surface of the colorectal cell. Pharmaceutical compositions comprise sterile, pyrogen free ST receptor ligand and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. Metastasized colorectal cancer is treated or imaged by increasing the number of ST receptor molecules on the surface of a metastasized colorectal cancer cell and then administering a pharmaceutical composition containing components that target the ST receptor for delivery of a therapeutic agent or imaging agent. Methods of detecting metastasized colorectal cancer are disclosed. Methods of delivering active compounds to a colorectal cell in an individual are disclosed.